

Photo Credit: Marvin Soriano/ Flickr Note: Report changes/updates are in blue



SITUATION SUMMARY

Significant Events - National

Boston Bombing Police Detail Chaotic Gunfight in Court

(BBC News) Police have described the chaotic confrontation with the Boston Marathon bombers, as a trial for the surviving brother enters a third week. Three officers said that Dzhokar Tsarnaev and his brother, Tamerlan, lobbed explosives and fired shots from a stolen SUV during an escape attempt. Tamerlan died during the melee when his brother ran him over and dragged his body up to 30 feet (9.1 meters). The officers spoke at Dzhoker Tsarnaev's murder trial in Boston. His lawyer concedes the brothers were behind the attacks that killed three people and wounded more than 260, but says his client was influenced by his brother. A massive manhunt led officers to discover Mr. Tsarnaev hiding in a boat parked in a back garden. Earlier on Monday, jurors were taken to see the boat which is riddled with bullet holes. Defense lawyers claim that Mr. Tsarnaev was pressured by his older brother. Prosecutors say he was willfully involved. The jury will decide whether the 21-year-old faces the death penalty if convicted.

U.S. Senator Calls for First-Responder Training for Derailments

(Reuters) A U.S. senator from Pennsylvania on Monday called for measures to provide resources and training to first responders who handle crude oil train derailments. Under the legislative proposal, a task force on derailments would be created under the Federal Emergency Management Agency to make recommendations to the U.S. Congress for training and resources, Senator Bob Casey, a Democrat, said in a statement. "The increase in train derailments in Pennsylvania and throughout the nation is troubling and requires action," Casey, said. A series of derailments of trains loaded with crude oil in North America has heightened the focus on rail safety. Casey announced the proposed legislation in Philadelphia, which his office said is one of the nation's most heavily traveled regions for rail shipments of crude oil. The recommendations would address such issues as funding for training, access to communications technology and development of a train incident database, Casey's statement said.



SITUATION SUMMARY

Significant Events - International

Syria Monitor Says Army Kills Six in Toxic Gas Attack, Military Denies It

(Reuters) A group monitoring the Syrian civil war said on Tuesday government forces had carried out a poison gas attack that killed six people in the northwest, and medics posted videos of children suffering what they said was suffocation. A Syrian military source described the report of an attack in the village of Sarmin in Idlib province as propaganda. "We confirm that we would not use this type of weapon, and we don't need to use it," the source said. President Bashar al-Assad's government has previously denied accusations that it has used chemical weapons in the four-year-old war. Officials were not available for comment. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which tracks the conflict through a network of sources, said the six dead included a man, his wife and their three children. It cited medical sources as saying they died as a result of gas from barrel bombs dropped late on Monday and that the chemical used was likely chlorine.

Cyclone Flattened the Landscape in Vanuatu's Outer Islands

(AP) Relief workers saw a flattened landscape and widespread destruction in Vanuatu's outer islands Tuesday after struggling for days to reach the areas of the South Pacific nation hardest hit by a fierce cyclone. Radio and telephone communications with the outer islands were just beginning to be restored, but remained incredibly patchy three days after Cyclone Pam hit. Australian military planes that conducted aerial assessments found significant damage, particularly on Tanna Island, where it appears that more than 80 percent of homes and other buildings were partially or completely destroyed, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said. Teams of aid workers and government officials carrying medical and sanitation supplies, water, food and shelter equipment managed to land on Tanna and neighboring Erromango Island on Tuesday afternoon, said Colin Collett van Rooyen, Vanuatu director for aid group Oxfam. The two islands were directly in the path of the storm, which packed winds of 270 kilometers (168 miles) per hour when it hit early Saturday.

Iranians Optimistic About Clinching Nuclear Agreement

(AP) In an unusually upbeat assessment, Iran's top nuclear official said Tuesday his government's main disagreements with the U.S. and its negotiating partners have been resolved and expressed optimism about meeting a late March deadline for a framework deal. Now in their second extension, the talks have made headway in recent weeks. The sides have moved closer on limitations on Iran's nuclear activities that could be retooled to make weapons. In exchange, the West would progressively lift economic and political sanctions. Still, the comments by Iranian nuclear chief Ali Akhbar Salehi were among the most promising to date. "The main issues have been closed," he told Iranian state TV. "I hope that in the remaining time we can close this." The sides are working to meet two target dates — a framework in the next two weeks that lays down the outlines of a final deal by the end of June. A senior U.S. official was less bullish, saying the sides had made progress but still had a ways to go in eliminating differences on what Tehran had to do for a gradual end to sanctions.

SITUATION SUMMARY

Weather of Concern

· No significant Weather Watches or Warnings are in effect.

Active Weather Warnings, Watches and Advisories by County: http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/brief/wwa_bc_cal.php

Cal EOC Incident - 2014 Drought

SOC / Inland REOC remains activated in support of 2014 Drought



WEATHER

WEATHER SYNOPSIS BY REGION:

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND CENTRAL COASTAL AREAS:

Eureka Weather:

High pressure aloft will lead to dry weather and above normal interior temperatures through early Friday. A brief period of light to moderate rainfall is expected Friday evening and overnight as a weak storm crosses the region.

Medford Weather:

An upper level trough nearing the coast early this morning will swing through the area today bringing isolated to scattered showers, mainly across the northern part of the region. High pressure aloft and at the surface will move into the area Wednesday and Thursday. This will result in dry weather with a moderating trend between being either sunny or having patchy late-night and early morning fog giving way to sunshine. By Friday, the ridge will push into the Great Basin allowing an offshore trough to approach the northwest coast.

Reno Weather:

A few afternoon showers will be possible in the Sierra south of Highway 50 today through Thursday. Otherwise, dry conditions prevail until low chances for precipitation return briefly Saturday. Conditions become drier again for the beginning of next week. Temperatures will remain above average through the weekend.

San Francisco Weather:

Mostly cloudy skies this morning should turn partly cloudy by this afternoon. High pressure rebuilds Wednesday through Friday with a subtle warming and drying trend. On Friday evening a weak front will pass through Northern California with a chance of some North Bay showers. Dry weather returns for the weekend.

WEATHER

WEATHER SYNOPSIS BY REGION:

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AND SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Sacramento Weather:

Clouds will decrease and remaining light precipitation will taper off across the region this morning. Weak weather systems will continue a slight chance for late afternoon and early evening showers and thunderstorms over the northern Sierra to the south of Lake Tahoe today and Wednesday. Otherwise, dry with milder temperatures through the end of the week. Next chance of more widespread precipitation will be this weekend.

Hanford Weather:

A slight cooling trend continues with increased clouds; however, temperatures will remain above normal. There will be a slight chance of mountain and foothill showers this afternoon with possible thunderstorms Wednesday. Clearing Friday with a slight chance of showers near Yosemite on Saturday as another trough pushes through the area.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Los Angeles Weather:

A low system will approach Tuesday to cool temperatures and bring possible precipitation on Wednesday to the Ventura and Los Angeles Mountains. The temperatures will stay above normal through the weekend as a weak high moves in.

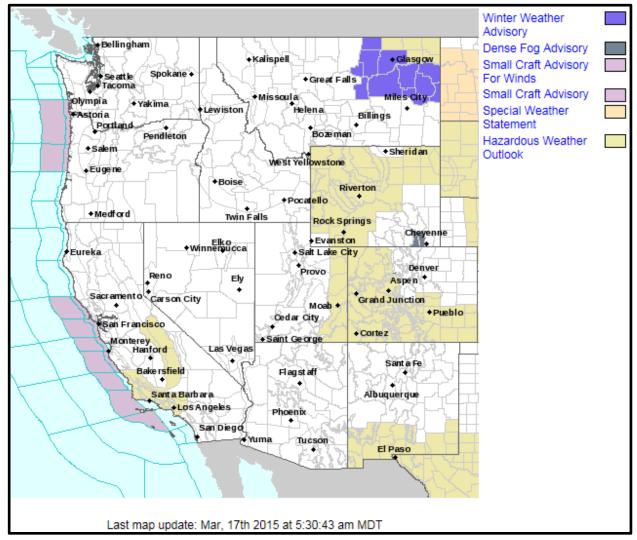
Extreme Southwestern California Including Orange, San Diego, Western Riverside and Southwestern San Bernardino Counties:

A trough of low pressure developing off the California Coast will bring a return of onshore flow with cooling spreading inland along with gusty west winds in the mountains and deserts. For Wednesday and Thursday, a low pressure system will move slowly southeastward through Southern California bringing cooling, more clouds, and a slight chance of thunderstorms, mainly near the mountains. Conditions will be dry and a little warmer for Friday through Monday with weak onshore flow.

Southeast California Weather:

Well above normal temperatures will persist through today. This will be replaced by a cool down Wednesday with cloudy conditions and a chance of showers for Thursday as a Pacific low moves slowly across the region. Decreasing clouds along with increasing temperatures are expected late in the week through early next week.

STATE WEATHER MAP



FIRE ACTIVITY

Preparedness Levels

National Preparedness Level 1

Northern California

Preparedness Level 1, Multi-Agency Coordination System MACS Mode 1

Southern California

Preparedness Level 2, Multi-Agency Coordination System MACS Mode 2

California Fire Potential & Weather Maps

Southern California 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8

Northern California 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/10

California Fire Weather Map Watches and Warnings

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/firewx/main.php

NWS California River Forecast Center:

http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/



RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

Round Fire, Inyo and Mono Counties

- On 3/11/15, the U.S. Small Business Administration approved a disaster declaration for the primary county of Mono and contiguous counties of Alpine, Fresno, Inyo, Madera, and Tuolumne. IA staff distributed notification letters.
- Recovery Debris Management Coordinator deployed to Mono County for debris management group meeting and site walk-through.



CAL OES 2014 DROUGHT

Cal EOC Incident - 2014 Drought

- The SOC, Inland, Coastal, and Southern REOCs and the Santa Barbara County EOC are activated in support of the Drought State of Emergency and continue to monitor the situation.
- The Governor issued an Executive Order on 09/19/14, to streamline relief efforts for families with drinking water shortages due to drought. Specifically, through the California Disaster Assistance Act, to provide temporary water supplies to households without water for drinking and/or sanitation purposes.
- CDAA 2014 Drought Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions provided to Regions for reference and distribution.
- Cal OES Recovery continues to coordinate a monthly state interagency conference call regarding drought community impacts.
- Cal OES Regional (Inland, Costal, Southern) conference calls continue to occur once a month.
- Cal OES Region/Recovery Call frequencies will change on and as needed basis.



Mission:

We protect lives and property, build capabilities, and support our communities for a resilient California.

We achieve our mission by serving the public through effective collaboration in preparing for, protecting against, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating the impacts of all hazards and threats.